

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method for maintaining state between a client and a server, comprising:  
generating a state variable including a location value;  
utilizing said state variable to maintain state between said client and said server.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said location value to correspond to the location of the client.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said location value to include a latitude and longitude dimension.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 3, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said location value to further include an altitude dimension.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said state variable to further include a temporal value.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said temporal value to correspond to the creation of said state variable.
7. (Original) The method of Claim 5, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said temporal value to correspond to the invocation of an Internet browser session.
8. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the step of deriving an anonymous state variable from said state variable.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, wherein said deriving step further comprises mathematically encoding said state variable into said anonymous state variable.

10. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said utilizing step further comprises comparing at least a portion of said state variable to a database to identify said client.

11. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said utilizing step further comprises comparing a portion of said state variable derived from a location value to a database to identify said client.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said utilizing step further comprises comparing a portion of said state variable derived from a location value corresponding to the location of said client to a database to identify said client.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said utilizing step further comprises comparing a portion of said state variable derived from a location value comprising a latitude and longitude dimension corresponding to the location of said client to a database to identify said client.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said utilizing step further comprises comparing a portion of said state variable derived from a location value comprising a latitude, longitude, and altitude dimension corresponding to the location of said client to a database to identify said client.

15. (Original) An apparatus for maintaining state between a client and a server, comprising:

means for generating a state variable including a location value;  
means for utilizing said state variable to maintain state between  
said client and said server.

16. (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim ~~46~~ 15, wherein said location value corresponds to the location of the client.

17. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 16, wherein said location value comprises a latitude and longitude dimension.

18. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 17, wherein said location value further comprises an altitude dimension.

19. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein said state variable further includes a temporal value.

20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein said temporal value corresponds to the creation of said state variable.

21. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 19, wherein said temporal value corresponds to the invocation of an Internet browser session.

22. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 15, further comprising means for deriving an anonymous state variable from said state variable.

23. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 22, wherein said means for deriving an anonymous state variable further comprises means for mathematically encoding said state variable.

24. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 15, wherein the means for utilizing said state variable to maintain state between said client and said server further comprises means for comparing at least a portion of said state variable to a database to identify said client.

25. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 24, wherein said portion of said state variable being compared derives from a location value.

26. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein said location value corresponds to the location of said client.

27. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein said location value comprises a latitude and longitude dimension.

28. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 27, wherein said location value further comprises an altitude dimension.

29. (Currently amended) A system for facilitating interaction between a user and a web application on a remote server, comprising:

a computer comprising a processor and memory;

a GPS receiver for generating location values corresponding to said user's geographic location;

means operatively associated with said processor for generating a state variable derived from said location values;

means operatively associated with said processor for utilizing said state variable to maintain state between said user and said web application.

30. (Original) The system of Claim 29, wherein said computer further comprises said means for generating said state variable and said means for utilizing said state variable.

31. (Original) The system of Claim 30, wherein said computer further comprises said GPS receiver.

32. (New) A method for communicating between a client and a server, comprising:

generating a unique state variable based on at least a location value corresponding to a location of said client;

communicating said state variable to said server upon commencement of a session between said client and said server; and

maintaining a record of said session using said state variable as an identifier of said client.

33. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein said location value comprises at least a latitude and longitude dimension.

34. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein said location value further comprises at least an altitude dimension.

35. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said state variable to further include a temporal value.

36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said temporal value to correspond to a time of creation of said state variable.

37. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein said generating step further comprises generating said temporal value to correspond to a time of initiation of said session.

38. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising deriving an anonymous state variable from said state variable.

39. (New) The method of Claim 38, wherein said deriving step further comprises mathematically encoding said state variable into said anonymous state variable.

40. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising comparing at least a portion of said state variable to a database to identify said client.

41. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising comparing at least a portion of said state variable derived from said location value to a database to identify said client.

42. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising receiving said location value from a GPS receiver collocated with said client.

43. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising deleting said state variable upon completion of said session.

44. (New) The method of Claim 32, further comprising maintaining at least a portion of said state variable upon completion of said session.

45. (New) The method of Claim 32, wherein said generating step further comprises generating a cookie file containing said state variable.

46. (New) The method of Claim 45, further comprising setting a value field of said cookie file to include said state variable.

47. (New) The method of Claim 45, further comprising leaving blank at least one of a domain and a path field of said cookie file.

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48. (New) The method of Claim 45, further comprising setting an age field of said cookie file to zero.